

History of Reentry

Reentry emerged as a top priority for the Wisconsin Department of Corrections (DOC) in late 2005 through a strategic planning effort with the Center for Effective Public Policy. By 2007, the unit began to take shape with the recruitment of a Reentry Director, followed shortly thereafter with project manager and coordinator positions. A decision-making body, the Reentry Executive Team, was also formed at this time, consisting of executive staff representatives from each DOC Division. The current Reentry Unit consists of eight staff assigned to DOC Central Office. Organizationally situated within the Office of the Secretary, the Reentry Unit provides agency-wide technical assistance and support.

Reentry Business Plan

The vision of Reentry is operationalized through the ongoing completion of tasks in the Reentry Business Plan, organized into the six priorities shown below:

Organizational Philosophy

Integrate the DOC mission of promoting public safety into all key Departmental activities.

Data/Information/M Measurement

Develop a performance-based management system to assess DOC's progress toward achieving Reentry Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).

Assessment

Implement a comprehensive process for administering validated risk and needs assessments in order to guide agency staff and partners in effectively applying evidence-based principles and practices to key decisions.

Case Management System

Implement a unified case planning and management system that targets risk reduction services, based upon empirically assessed risk factors, to moderate and high-risk youth, inmates, and offenders under community supervision.

Interventions, Programs and Services

Assure that the risk reduction interventions, programs, and services provided to youth, inmates, and offenders are evidence-based and effectively address the criminogenic needs and level of risk of the individual.

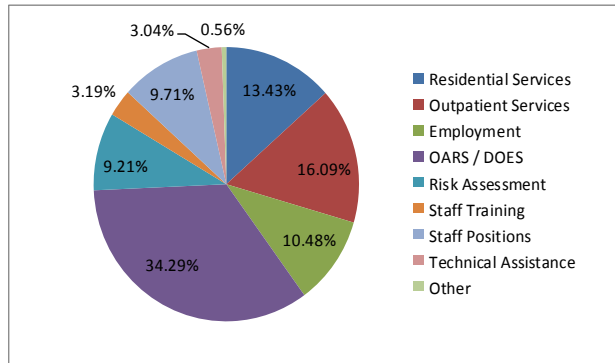
Continuous Quality Improvement

Develop and refine a "culture of quality" in DOC to ensure ongoing fidelity of evidence-based practices.

Programs and Initiatives

Legislative Appropriation 112 is the primary funding source for recidivism reduction programming administered by Reentry. Annually, the Reentry Unit, in collaboration with DOC Cross-Divisional Partners, plans and executes the expenditure of \$10.2 million. Programs funded through Appropriation 112 primarily serve those who are medium to high risk to reoffend. Key Appropriation 112 Reentry programs are highlighted below:

FY15 Appropriation 112 Funding by Type



FY15 Appropriation 112 DOC Program Enrollment Data

	DAI	DCC
Total Served	717	2,451
Successful Completions	596	945
Disciplinary Terminations	60	537
Administrative Terminations	11	358
Withdrawals	33	152
Continuing Service	17	441
Blank End Codes	0	18

Computer Numerical Control (CNC) Mobile Lab

The DOC CNC Mobile Lab is a self-contained classroom that can be transported throughout the state to provide current technical instruction to participants at various correctional institutions. Participants can earn up to 16 technical college credits during the accelerated program.

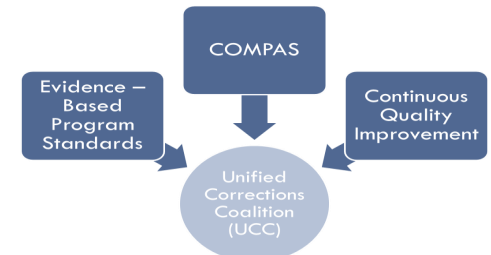


Opening Avenues for Reentry Success (OARS)

The OARS program is managed by the Reentry Unit in partnership with the Department of Health Services, and was developed to enhance public safety by supporting the successful transition, recovery, and self-sufficiency of offenders with mental health needs as they return to the community. Participants are enrolled six months prior to their release and may continue in the program for up to two years after release.

Unified Corrections Coalition (UCC)

The mission of the Unified Corrections Coalition (UCC) is to operationalize the DOC Offender Lifecycle by implementing a single statewide risk & needs assessment and case management system, with an emphasis on evidence-based program standards and continuous quality improvement. The Unified Corrections Coalition is made up of personnel from the DOC, the Office of State Courts, and Northpointe.



Affordable Care Act

In January, 2015, the Department of Health Services (DHS) and DOC partnered to allow inmates to apply for Medicaid programs prior to release from prison using the inmate phone system. Offenders are now able to release to the community with access to medical, mental health, and substance use disorder treatment. During the first six months of application assistance, an estimated 1500 inmates have applied for state Medicaid programs.

University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute Partnership

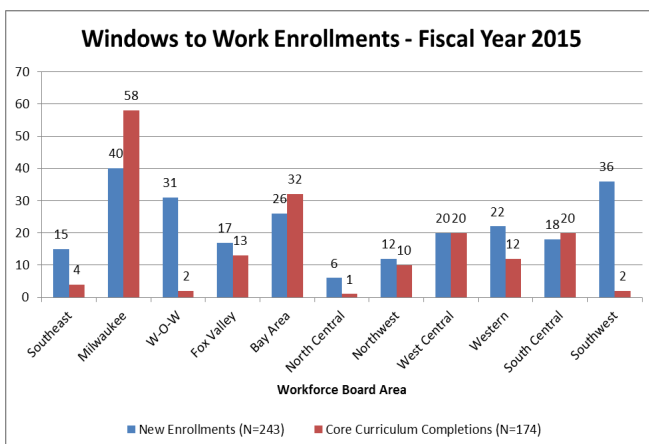
The University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute (UCCI) provides ongoing technical assistance to the DOC through a contracted partnership. Evidence-based alignment activities include:

- Corrections Program Checklist Training and Implementation
- Model Program Redesign Projects
- Staff Professional Development and Coaching
- Curriculum Review/Revision
- Evidence-Based Cross-Divisional Team Technical Support
- Strategic and Sustainability Planning

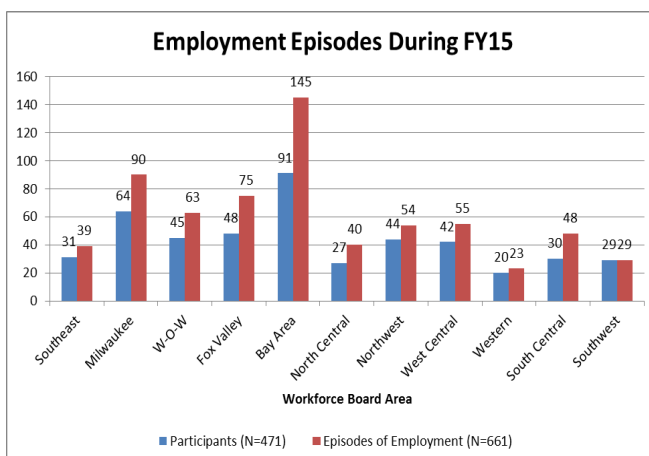
Programs and Initiatives

Windows to Work

Windows to Work is a partnership with all 11 of Wisconsin's Workforce Development Boards. Each board is contracted to provide, or subcontract to provide, a program at DOC institutions or county jail facilities in each workforce development area. Eligible participants are enrolled in the institution/jail approximately 3-9 months prior to release, and programming continues in the community for approximately 12 months following a participant's release from incarceration. There are 5 county jail programs and 15 programs in 10 DAI facilities active throughout the state. The chart below shows data for new institution enrollments during fiscal year 2015.



One of the goals of Windows to Work is to increase employment placement opportunities for participants following their release from incarceration. The following chart provides information for employment episodes occurring during fiscal year 2015.



Disabled Offender Economic Stability (DOES)

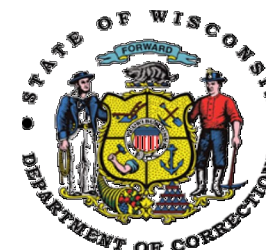
The DOES project promotes public safety by helping offenders with disabilities establish economic security through more rapid and increased access to state and federal benefits. Legal Action Benefit Specialists provide services to 14 DOC institutions. DOES Benefit Specialists are lawyers who work with DOC staff and community providers to ensure that disabled offenders receive and keep benefits for which they are eligible.

Reentry Recidivism Data

DOC defines recidivism as: Following an episode of incarceration or supervision with the DOC, to commit a criminal offense that results in a new conviction and sentence to DOC custody or supervision.

Windows to Work			
Release Year	Eligible Participants	One-Year Recidivism Rate	Two-Year Recidivism Rate
2011	64	10.9%	23.4%
2012	121	16.5%	----

OARS			
Release Year	Eligible Participants	One-Year Recidivism Rate	Two-Year Recidivism Rate
2011	76	13.2%	27.4%
2012	56	8.9%	----



Reentry at a Glance

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Reentry promotes offender success from admission through discharge through the application of evidence based practices.